



**Update**  
**February 20, 2004**

**Data Submission Status:** Only twelve facilities – all of which requested extensions – have yet to submit their fourth-quarter discharge data. WHA Information Center has collected more than 700,000 records thus far. Thank you to all facilities for respecting the February 16 deadline. Thank you also to the data submitters who took the time to send messages of appreciation regarding the new submission process. WHA Information Center is committed to providing excellent customer service, and your feedback helps us verify that we're on the right track.

**Profiles and Affirmation Statements:** WHA Information Center is currently formatting historical data from the Bureau of Health Information (BHI) so that it can be queried by our system. This will allow us to run validation tests on the fourth-quarter 2003 data. Profiles and Affirmation Statements will be sent after validation is complete. **Our target date is Mid-March.** For future quarters, our goal is to initiate validation for each facility soon after it marks its quarter complete. Profiles and Affirmation Statements will follow shortly thereafter.

**The Fix is In!:** As promised, we have made some programming changes in our system that will allow facilities to update records previously considered invalid:

- **Ambulatory and emergency records with an unknown ZIP code:** These records were previously considered invalid because of a missing ZIP code. These records can be updated by using the drop-down menu on the Batch Review screen to sort by error type. Select ZIP Code Errors. On each record with a ZIP code error, enter "17" in the Condition Code 1 field, then click "Update."
- **Age-specific diagnosis codes:** These records were previously considered invalid because the reported diagnosis code was not valid for the age of the patient. Our research indicated that **some** of our age-specific diagnosis codes may be used for other age ranges than the original programming allowed. These records can be updated by using the drop-down menu on the Batch Review screen to sort by error type. Select Admitting Diagnosis Errors and/or Additional Diagnosis Errors. Simply click on "Update" on each of the records. Those that were mistakenly considered invalid will be changed to valid records. **Note:** If you encounter an age-specific edit and believe the diagnosis or procedure code is valid for the patient's age, please contact us at [WHAInfoCenter@wha.org](mailto:WHAInfoCenter@wha.org).

**Important Dates and Deadlines: 4Q 03 Data**

**February 26:** All corrections to edited records must be complete (standard deadline).

**March 15:** Extended deadline for data submission.

**March 25:** All corrections to edited records must be complete (extended deadline).